

NORTH DELTA WATER AGENCY

910 K Street, Suite 310, Sacramento, CA 95814

CENTRAL DELTA WATER AGENCY

235 East Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA 95201

SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY

3031 West March Lane, Suite 332 East, Stockton, CA 95267

September 22, 1999

Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on CALFED EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Snow,

This letter is being sent to you on behalf of the North, Central and South Delta Water Agencies. These Agencies have obviously been most interested in the CALFED planning process and are anxious to be full participants in that effort. The Delta area will likely be subjected to the most impacts of any area by the plan that is adopted and we should play a major role in the development of such future plans. The economic and social future of the Delta and throughout the Delta counties will be determined to a large extent by the CALFED plans adopted. It is with this in mind that these three agencies have worked together to provide the recommendations set forth in this letter.

The North, Central and South Delta Water Agencies have identified these common interests and recommendations for adoption by CALFED, which they feel, are of highest importance in order to maintain a viable and productive Delta.

- The North, South and Central Delta Water Agencies need to be full participants in the planning and design of a through Delta water conveyance facility. To the extent that this has already been designed we should participate in a reassessment.
- Assurance must be provided for the maintenance of the common pool concept for water quality protection. Water rights, water quality needs and contractual obligations must not be compromised. We wish to review and provide input on these assurances.
- Improved flood conveyance capacity all the way through the Delta is essential to convey Sacramento, San Joaquin and Mokelumne waters to the Bay. Any changes in land use, which result in operational

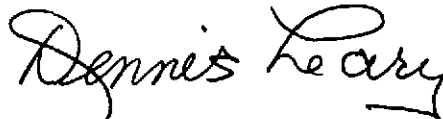
changes to flood flows, must be carefully analyzed. We wish to participate in developing these plans.

- Good scientific analysis must be used to make decisions on operations and fishery benefits. Accurate delta hydraulics and biological data must be obtained. Basic channel profiles and cross-sections need to be updated. Delta interests must not be impacted on the basis of environmental notions that are not based on rigorous scientific data.
- The relationships between and among the plans being studied should be compared to assure compatibility. Flood control alternatives need to be integrated with through delta water conveyance and water quality and environmental needs.
- Delta interests should review and approve any proposed land use changes.


The undersigned agencies look forward to an increased role in the decisions which will so greatly affect their constituents and their future. In the interest of seeing CALFED develop a viable long-term plan for the Delta and provide for the basic needs of the program these Agencies must be participants in the decision making process. The future of the CALFED program will be more acceptable and capable of implementation only if those directly affected have an opportunity to help shape the plans.

More detailed comments may be submitted by the three Agencies in addition to the common points of interest expressed herein.

Sincerely,



Dennis Leary
Chairman, North Delta Water Agency



Rudy Mussi
Vice-Chairman, Central Delta Water Agency



Jerry Robinson
Chairman, South Delta Water Agency

Cc: Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt
Governor Gray Davis
Resources Secretary Mary Nichols
DWR Director Tom Hannigan
USBR Regional Director Kirk Rogers
USFWS Regional Director Mike Spears
DFG Director Robert Hight
Senator Diane Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Doug Ose
Congressman Richard Pombo
Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher
Congressman Gary Condit
Senator Maurice Johannessen
Senator Patrick Johnston
Senator Richard Rainey
Senator Dick Monteith
Assembly Member Helen Thomson
Assembly Member Mike Machado
Assembly Member Anthony Pescetti
Assembly Member Dennis Cardoza
North Delta Water Agency Directors
Central Delta Water Agency
South Delta Water Agency
Delta Protection Commission
County of Sacramento
County of San Joaquin
County of Yolo
County of Solano
County of Contra Costa
Solano County Water Agency